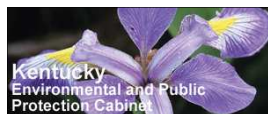


OFFICE OF MINE SAFETY AND LICENSING



QUARTERLY
NEWS
&
REPORT
JANUARY
- MARCH
2008



Welcome to
OMST

New
Employees



Jason S. Lawson
Mine Safety Analyst I
Barbourville
March 1, 2008



Johnny Morgan
Mine Inspector I
Barbourville
March 1, 2008

STATE MINE RESCUE PROGRAM MEETS FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS

Press Release Date: Friday, March 7, 2008

Kentucky's mine rescue teams will continue to serve coal mines across the state in compliance with recently adopted federal mine safety regulations.

Officials with the Department for Natural Resources met recently with the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) to discuss implementation of the Federal Miner Act of 2006. On Feb. 8, 2008, MSHA adopted regulations to implement mine rescue provisions of the act.

State mine rescue teams will serve as one of the two designated mine rescue teams for large mines, as well as serving small coal mines across Kentucky.

"We're pleased that we can continue to provide mine rescue services to underground mines statewide," said Robert Vance, secretary of the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet (EPPC). "If we had failed to meet the new training requirements, the burden for providing mine rescue teams would have fallen to mine owners. The costs would have been tremendous for small mine operations."



Among the new rules is a provision that allows state-sponsored mine rescue teams to substitute their regular job experience for 50 percent of the annual training requirements. Kentucky's mine rescue team members are mine safety inspectors, mine safety analysts and instructors who all have a minimum of five years mining experience and are certified as mine foremen.

MSHA officials said they are satisfied that EPPC's plan for conducting training sessions at individual mines meets the new regulations.

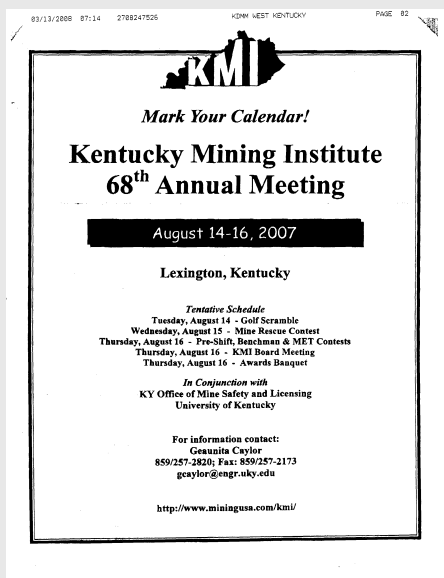
Through its Office of Mine Safety and Licensing, EPPC maintains 11 rescue teams and six rescue stations, all within one hour's drive of every mine they serve. Kentucky has 185 licensed underground mines, including 105 small mines.

FATALITIES AND SERIOUS ACCIDENTS

JAN. 1, 2008-
MARCH 15, 2008

FATALITY JAN. 1, 2008
ROY D. STURGILL
CUMBERLAND RIVER
COAL CO. INC.
BLUE RIDGE MINE
HAZARD DISTRICT
CAUSE : SURFACE HAULAGE





It's Mine Rescue Contest Time Again!

Are you excited? Because we are!

2008 Local Contest Listing

<u>Contest</u>	<u>Date & Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
Smokeaters Post 2 Bench(BG-4 and Biopak)	May 9-10 Lexington	Jim Langley 606-546-5123
West Kentucky Mining Institute Annual Safety Days	May 21-22 Madisonville	Polly Wilson 270-821-4180, ext. 226
Manchester Safety Days First Aid and Preshift	June 17-19 Manchester	Charles Weaver 606-598-3451
Eastern Kentucky Mine and Safety Training Competition	Aug. 13-14 Pikeville	Daven Hoskins 606-273-7202
Kentucky State Mine Rescue Bench, Preshift and MET	Sep. 3-5 Lexington	Geaunita Caylor 859-257-2820

State Employment Update

Register Process Changes for the Better

Last fall, the Personnel Cabinet successfully launched its new online employment Career Opportunities System (COS), which makes applying for state employment much easier. Starting on March 18, you must create a COS account and apply for any job postings through COS to be considered. You no longer have to come to the Personnel Cabinet's offices to complete this process, and from this point on you will always have your application at your fingertips.

For instant e-mail notification about vacancies of interest to you, take advantage of the new search agent feature. This allows you to identify jobs you would be interested in and COS will notify you when they are open.

For more information
or to access COS,
go to
www.personnel.ky.gov
and click on
Career Opportunities System.



OMSL Safety Highlight:

Citation Reduction Incentive Program

This program is designed to get all employees to participate in a citation reduction plan at James River Coal Co. The program was developed in January, and since then all companies and mines in James River Coal Co. have adopted this plan. The purpose of the program is to encourage all employees to find potential citations and correct them before the inspectors find them. This program will work, and the key to success is for supervisors to adopt the program and then promote it.

This program came into existence due to mine managements desire to reduce violations at the mine. The best way to reduce the number of citations being issued was to get all of the employees involved in recognizing and correcting potential violations.

All employees are eligible to participate except for designated foremen. The condition that is corrected by the employee must be a substantial violation, and the condition cannot be part of the employee's regular job assignment.

A card will be submitted on each condition, and a foreman must sign off on the card which validates that the employee did recognize and correct the condition. Each card must also be signed by the employee. The superintendent will determine the validity of each card, and he will tally the number of cards submitted by each employee.

The winners will be determined by the superintendent on a monthly basis. The employee with the most valid cards on each working shift will be the winner and receive an award. The award is determined by the superintendent but should be substantial enough to warrant participation by all employees.

The pilot program started on Jan. 11, 2008, and as of Feb. 20, 2008, we have received seven total citations.

In summary, the program involves all employees, and the award is substantial enough to attract participation from everyone.



**TO VIEW
OMSL DISCIPLINARY CASES
BEFORE THE
KENTUCKY MINE SAFETY
REVIEW COMMISSION
GO TO
[HTTP://WWW.OMSL.KY.GOV/](http://www.OMSL.KY.GOV/)**

According to KRS 351.025 (6), the Office of Mine Safety and Licensing will establish procedures to distribute quarterly reports to every licensed entity describing mine fatalities, serious mine accidents, and penalties imposed on certified and noncertified personnel and licensed premises and to require the report to be distributed to every certified working miner employed by the licensed entity, posted at work sites, and reviewed at regular mine safety meetings.